



S
Insect Control, R-1
Cabinet


April 26, 1935.

Mr. S. A. Rohwer,
Acting Chief,
Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine.

Dear Mr. Rohwer:

Your letter of April 5, transmitting a report by Mr. James C. Evenden concerning insect attacks in the Thompson River Drainage of the Cabinet National Forest has been received. This office concurs that it will be well to carefully watch the developments of bark-beetle infestations in this drainage through the medium of annual surveys.

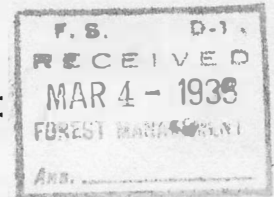
Very sincerely yours,


Acting Forester.

For information of

R-1

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY AND PLANT QUARANTINE
WASHINGTON, D.C.



Refer to file
Project N-3

Forest Insect Laboratory
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
March 1, 1935

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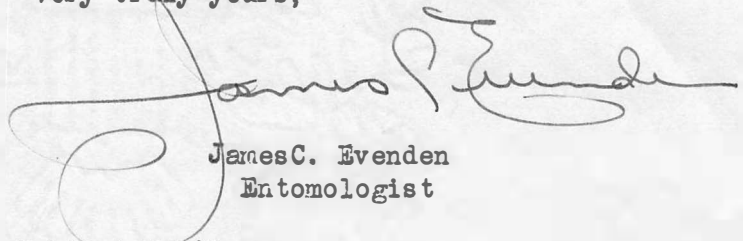
Regional Forester,
Missoula, Montana.

Dear Sir:

Attention Mr. Koch

Please find enclosed a brief memorandum covering an extensive examination of the ponderosa pine stands of the Thompson River Drainage with letters of transmittal which I believe are self-explanatory.

Very truly yours,



James C. Evenden
Entomologist

Cc to Forest Supervisor, Cabinet Nat'l Forest,
Thompson Falls, Monta.

Refer to file
Project N-3

Forest Insect Laboratory
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
March 2, 1935

Mr. Roscoe Haines,
Lbr. Dept., Anaconda Copper Co.,
Missoula, Montana.

Dear Mr. Haines:

You will recall that last fall Mr. Tompkins and I made a very extensive examination of the ponderosa pine stands within the Thompson River Drainage. The enclosed memorandum covers the results of our findings, discusses the examination and depicts the status of the existing infestation and comments upon the suggestion made by Mr. Tompkins that an annual survey of this area be made.

Your comments relative to the suggestion made in this memorandum for this survey will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

James C. Evenden
Entomologist

Cc to Regional Forester, Missoula, Mont.
Forest Supervisor, Cabinet Nat'l Forest,
Thompson Falls, Mont.
Frank Tompkins, Chief Timber Inspector
N.P. Rr. Co., Helena, Mont.

Refer to file
Project N-3

Forest Insect Laboratory
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
March 2, 1935

Mr. Frank Tompkins,
Northern Pacific Rr. Co.
Land Department,
Helena, Montana.

Dear Sir:

Please find enclosed a brief memorandum covering the extensive examination which was made of the Thompson River Drainage last fall. I am sorry I have been so long in submitting this memorandum to you, but unforeseen office duties have prevented me from tending to it prior to this time.

Your comments relative to the proposed annual survey will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

James C. Evenden
Entomologist

Cc to Regional Forester, Missoula, Mont.
Forest Supervisor, Cabinet Nat'l Forest,
Thompson Falls, Mont.
Roscoe Haines, Anaconda Copper Co., Missoula, Mont.

Results of an Extensive Examination of the Ponderosa Pine Stands
of the Thompson River Drainage
Cabinet National Forest, Montana

Thompson River is a tributary of the Clark Fork River and enters the latter stream a short distance from Thompson Falls. For approximately forty-five miles the Thompson River flows southward through a strip of privately owned land which varies from four to ten miles in width and divides the eastern portion of the Cabinet National Forest. This drainage supports what is no doubt the best and largest body of ponderosa pine in the state of Montana. In some portions the forest type is a pure ponderosa pine stand, while in others there is considerable larch, Douglas fir, and some small lodgepole pine. The ponderosa pine is mature, with a fair understory of second growth and reproduction. A large percentage of the timber lands within this drainage is held by the Northern Pacific Land Company, and the Anaconda Copper Mining Company.

The Cabinet Forest borders the Lolo National Forest where some severe outbreaks of the mountain pine beetle (Dendroctonus monticolae Hopk.) had been reported in 1933. As these outbreaks were assumed to have originated from the severe Bitterroot infestation, the owners of the timber stands within the Thompson River drainage feared that the spread had also reached that portion of the Cabinet. As a result of this condition, Mr. Tompkins, Land Agent, Northern Pacific Land Company,

requested that the area be inspected by an officer of this laboratory. The writer was accompanied on this examination which was made in early October, by Messrs. Tompkins and Kincaid, officers of the Northern Pacific Land Company. The trip was made by automobiles, and various vantage points were visited where good views of the drainage were secured. Though it is realized that only a small portion of the area was actually covered, it is believed that a very fair idea of existing conditions was secured.

A number of stops were made to examine dead pine trees along the highway. Basal examination of these trees showed old or new attacks of the western pine beetle (Dendroctonus brevicornis Lec.). The trees attacked in 1934 showed heavy attacks though a considerable percentage of the brood had been destroyed by woodpeckers. A few scattered mountain pine beetle galleries were found in association with the western pine beetle and it is possible that in the tops of some trees they may have been more numerous. However, there was no evidence of any condition which would indicate the presence of the mountain pine beetle in anything but very normal numbers. An infestation of the western pine beetle is present within the ponderosa pine stands of the area, although from the extensive reconnaissance made, it did not appear to be of sufficient intensity to warrant the institution of control.

As Mr. Tompkins was very desirous of preventing the development of any situation which would subsequently result in severe timber losses, and stated that the private owners were anxious to keep properly informed as to conditions, the writer offered the services of the Coeur d'Alene Laboratory in conducting more intensive surveys of the area. It was suggested that such surveys be planned on an annual basis, though after the first year's data were available, such frequency might not be necessary.

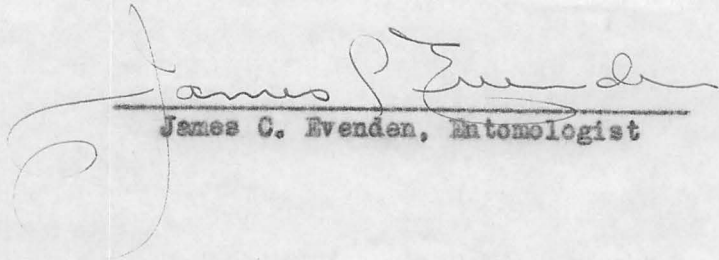
Though the Coeur d'Alene Laboratory would carry the salary of the Bureau officer in charge of the operation, it would be necessary for the cooperating private agencies to pay the field expenses as well as the wages of the men employed. The survey could be conducted during the latter part of July and the first of August, with some of the temporary men who are secured for similar surveys throughout the region.

Until after the first year, it is somewhat difficult to determine the actual number of man-days necessary to secure an accurate picture of the existing situation within this drainage. However, it is roughly estimated that a four-man crew, including the officer in charge, should spend at least two weeks during the 1935 season. During subsequent seasons it may be possible to reduce the size of this operation. The expense of the project for salaries and field expenses would not exceed a total of \$350.00 for the present season.

This cooperative proposal has been submitted to Doctor Craighead, In Charge of the Division of Forest Insects, Bureau of Entomology and

Plant Quarantine, who has given his approval. Copies of this memorandum are being forwarded to the Northern Pacific Land Company as well as to the Anaconda Copper Mining Company to secure their reaction to the plan suggested by Mr. Tompkins.

Respectfully submitted,



James C. Evenden, Entomologist